Canons of Destruction

VOLUME 38, NUMBER 8 | THE LAW STUDENTS' NEWSPAPER | APRIL 10, 2007

PASS-FAIL COURSES: THE SAVIOR OF LAW

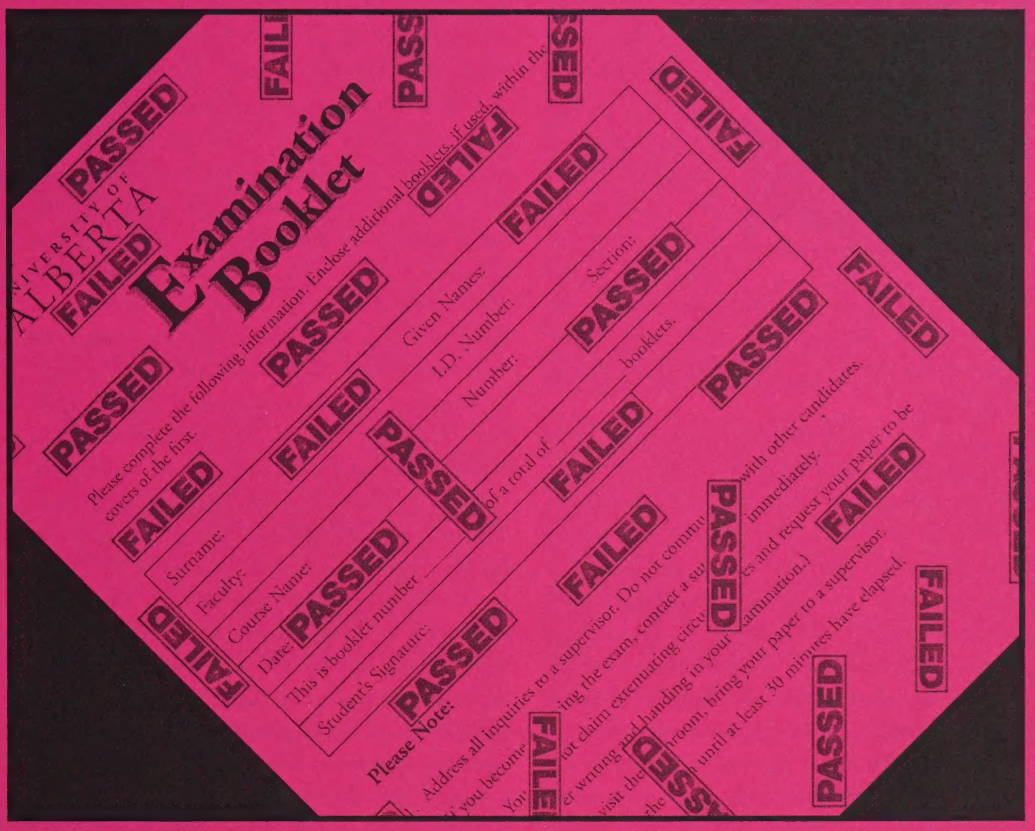
ALICE WONG (2L)

Yeah, you read the heading correctly: effective starting fall term September 2007, all courses in professional programs will operate on a pass-fail basis. This includes medicine and dentistry, and most importantly for everyone here, law.

That's right – you can pause for a minute right now and listen to the tidal wave of spluttering disbelief and indignation rising from all third years around you. All, not just techniques in negotiations.

No longer will everyone be complaining about the curve or which professors are the hardest. No longer will everyone have to drag themselves awake at 5 in the morning to plaster themselves to their computer screens in preparation for the fight to get into Professor Robertson's conflicts class. And no longer will the SNAILS cower in fear during exam period when a pissed off and sleep-deprived law student hisses at them to shut up and get out of the Reading Room. Actually, go ahead and keep on doing that; it's nice to be able to savour that sense of righteous superiority when you hear someone say, 'Can't you guys read? It's reserved for law students. Are *you* a law student? Nope, didn't think so.'

For all those who are wondering how this miracle occurred, it's not really that surprising. Under the *Post-Secondary Learning Act* of Alberta, the Board of Governors is allowed to set student tuition and fees. This includes program differential fees for medicine and law, aka the extra $2000 tacked on to your tuition every term. Provincial amendments to s. 25.2 now allows the Board to further alter the grading system for these particular programs to the exclusion of all other undergraduate and graduate faculties. Kudos must also be given to the Law Society of Alberta, who in their infinite wisdom and mercy, has apparently agreed that this will serve as extra incentive to students who are considering law and that the resulting flood of lawyers will hopefully fix the current associate shortage.



Of course, one has to wonder whether this is a smart move in the long-run. Is it really worth it to dole out a bunch of possibly sub-standard lawyers who would have otherwise failed or done abysmally at law school? Who the heck is going to try hard in classes anymore? And how will firms decide who to hire, or even interview? It probably means that your resume and cover letter will have to be spectacular and you'll have to blow them away during your interview. My sympathies go out to Pat Neil: a hoard of stampeding students foaming at the mouth to shove their resumes on your table and rip the copies of 'Guerrilla Tactics' out of your hands is so not a pretty picture.

Lastly, is this fair for all those who had to slodge their way through the world of competitive schooling in the past? Nope. Does this writer give a damn? Not really. I only wish that it happened earlier since articling month is coming up and that string of 'not A+'s' decorating my transcript does nothing for my confidence. But hey, better late than never, right? Well, maybe except for death.

Hello My Friend Cafe
Customer Appreciation Day
Free coffee or tea on April 13th. Thank you for your patronage.
- Steve

IN THE LIFE OF LAW

Lee Satveit (1L)

If you're like me, you start off your morning with that epic battle between your id and your superego – to stay warm and cozy snuggled under the covers, or leave the cocoon and brave a cold new day. Forty minutes later you trudge the exhausting 5 minute walk from your house to the good 'ole LC – T6G 2H5. (Cue theme song here)

Upon leaving the house, you are once again disappointed to find that your Axe body spray has not caused hundreds of scantly clad ladies to flock to your side. You contemplate taking legal action for false advertising, but decide to wait until after you've finished mooting. As per your daily ritual, you Ro-Sham-Bo Steve from "Hello My Friend Café" for double-or-nothing on your morning coffee. He falls for it every time, and you wonder how he ever turns a profit. Still, you enjoy the free Americano.

Classes ensue. You sadly learn you won't benefit from the Dower Act because you're not married, you could be guilty of a crime because you counselled your friend to "Kill Zangief with a dragon punch," and bottled beverages just might contain rotting snails. You lament that nobody ever created a trust for you and that it would take ten years for you to claim the intellectual landscape of America by adverse possession. How could you possibly find the time, what with your epic battle against Leviathan? Your Foundations are crumbling…

Classes end and you head up to the reading room in the library. A couple of cute snails raise their heads from their science textbooks as you pass. You suddenly realize you are glad they are there, because you haven't left the "LC-HUB-HUDSONS-HOME" trap for 2 weeks, and new faces are a nice change of pace. You study for 20 minutes, and then inexplicably find yourself online reading Facebook. You feel guilty, because other people in the reading room seem to be working hard, preparing case briefs or CANS. You feel better when, upon closer inspection, you realize that they are on Facebook too. Why do we mail each other on Facebook when we see each other every day?

Leaving the above question unanswered, you return to your books after seeing that nobody has posted anything on your wall. Instead of doing the readings for next day's classes, you ambitiously attempt to catch up on the readings you didn't do while you were frantically preparing your factum, frantically preparing for your Moot, or were otherwise engaged in one of the 500 extra-curricular activities you signed up for in September. After a few hours of work, you realize that instead of catching up you are falling further behind. Will a magic CAN save you like it did last semester? Will the Oilers win tonight? What evil lurks in the hearts of men? …Only the Shadow knows….

Days pass. The cycle repeats. Your Axe body spray continues to have no effect. Social events are coming up. There is a Law/Med/Dent/Pharm mixer. But, it turns out the joke is on the law students, because nobody from the other 3 faculties show up at Hudsons. You have fun anyway, because everybody in Law rocks the house. Still, in protest you make a mental note to start planning the first Law/Fine Arts/Chemistry mixer in history! Bwa ha ha ha ha! (If you think about it, it makes about as much sense…)

Finals loom. Your stress levels are now at "level Orange" on Happy McDictator's color-coded threat-o-meter, indicating a high risk of exam burnout. You feel self loathing, and start to regret spending reading week watching full Seasons of South Park on DVD and munching on two-bite brownies. Then, suddenly, like a bolt of lightning out of a clear blue sky, you remember the days when you worked as a meathead hauling cast-iron pipes out of a 4 foot high, 50 yard crawl space, and you feel grateful you're in law school. Your mood changes, and, like "the lark at break of day arising, From sullen earth, sings hymns at heaven's gate." You hit the books with renewed vigour, and console your remaining self doubt with the notion that, on your exams, you can always invoke Dennis Denuto's "Vibe"of the Constitution."

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Canons of Construction

Volume 38, Number 8 The Law Students' Newspaper April 10, 2007

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Our sincere apologies to anyone we may have forgotten.

Canons of Construction is the official Law Student Newspaper of the University of Alberta Law Faculty. Canons' principal objectives are to provide equitable and judicious coverage of issues and events germane to Law Students at the University of Alberta and to provide an open forum for the free exchange and expression of thought, opinions and ideas.
All law students and interested parties in the legal community are encouraged to contribute submissions, provided that contributions are accompanied by name, student number and telephone number. Canons reserves the right to edit submissions for content, length, and legality. Canons will not publish materials deemed by the board to be racist, sexist, homophobic or libelous. Ideas and opinions expressed in Canons do not necessarily reflect the views of the Canons board, although sometimes they do, especially near the end of the year.

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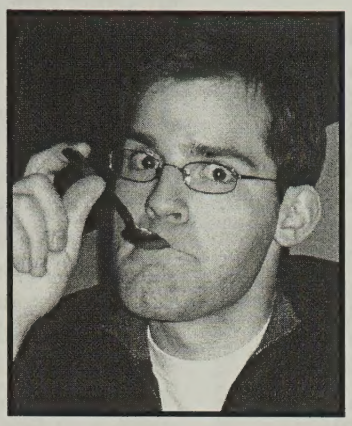
Private School Education is Essential for Success

Victor Alfonso (3L Candidate)



Your education determines your legal career. Successful lawyers must go to a great school. The problem is by the time you get to law school, it's already too late. Just like smokers, great lawyers are made before turning 18. So, to all you would-be parents, do your children a favour and send them to private school (and Scott, get a hair-cut). The benefits are enormous—those who hate are just jealous.

For example, I am a private school alum. As articling applications near, I take solace in the fact that I, unlike many of you, have absolutely nothing to worry about. Why? Because I know the secret hand-shake. I have the skills they're looking for in a lawyer: false confidence, an ability to BS and access to a named partner through my alumni network. Nepotism is everything.

It is difficult to list all the benefits a private education confers, so I will just describe a few. If you have a son, he will learn to be a snappy dresser, getting used to wearing a tie every day. You'll be pleased at the level of arrogance your son achieves as the schools vaccinate against modesty and other personality traits of unsuccessful people (ie. honesty and good will). More importantly, by conforming to the image of the elite, he'll never need to prove his value.

Your daughter will have all the benefits of being in a sorority without ever having to go to college—such schools breed perfect first-wives (Dianne Keaton and Bette Midler both attended private school). Or, if you decide to send her to one of those schools that try to turn young girls into professional women, then she will receive the same education as the boys. Who knows, you may have a future Margaret Thatcher in your home right now.

Being surrounded everyday by people with no respect for money makes it a whole lot easier to disrespect your client's money, and overbill and embezzle (depending on whether you slack at a national firm or go into private practice). Your child's classmates will always belong in his core network and will always to grant favours, regardless of whether they actually spoke while in high-school. This is the key to success: it's not who you know, it's who you knew.

Private school education, however, is expensive and as many of you will not be successful enough to afford it, there is an alternative made affordable with your parents' retirement savings. Religious schools are a great second choice if you wish your child to be either a Crown prosecutor or a family lawyer, as he will gain the experiences needed to truly empathise with the victim or client. But that's neither here nor there; if you can't afford private school tuition, take a lesson from your child: steal it. He will thank you later.

A Word From The President-Elect

Christine Murray (2L)

Hi. First of all, I wanted to thank all of the law school for coming out and supporting the LSA elections. It is a true honour to represent such a wonderful faculty and I am very excited for the upcoming year.

Good luck on all of your exams and papers law students! I am sure you will be amazing. The LSA will try to help by bringing you quiet spaces to study. I have been talking to Neil Buddel and the fourth floor to make sure there is study space for law students over the April exam period. We are currently booking rooms and will communicate this once we receive the booking confirmations.

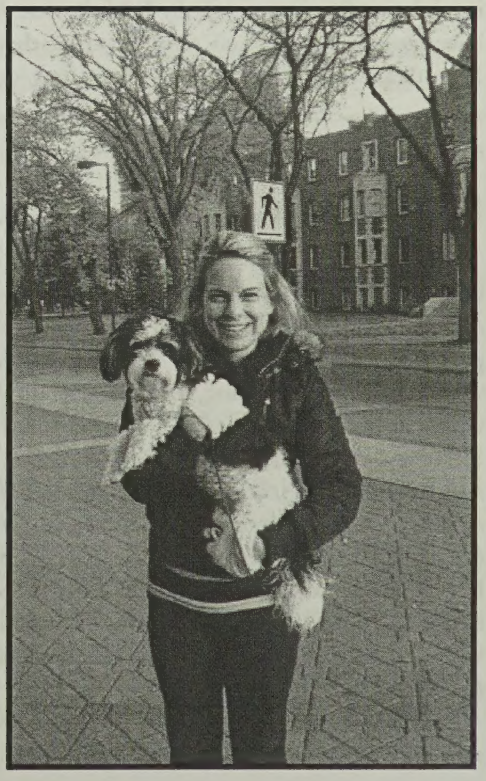
The library system is also looking to extend hours in all libraries. Once they have things coordinated (which includes security coverage), we will also communicate these details. It is our hope that the extra study space and extended library hours will help with exam study and I will keep you posted as soon as we find out.

The End of Exams Party is going to be great this year! It will be on April 28. The LSA is working to put together an awesome time and, if you have anything you would like to see please let us know!

Third years will celebrate finishing their last law exams ever and, the rest of us can welcome in the summer! I cannot wait to see everyone out and smiling. Please check out the LSA on Face Book and let us know if you have any song requests (that bring back memories of law school times) we will try to accommodate them!

Have a wonderful day,

Please e-mail me if you have any comments or concerns ~ cpmurray@ualberta.ca



I AIN'T GOING NOWHERE

MARK FACUNDO (LAW SCHOOL OVERLORD)

Hark, citizens of Law School! Hark and rejoice, for a time of great celebration is upon us! By Presidential Decree, let it be henceforth known that I, Mark Facundo, will continue my reign as President of the LSA for an indefinite term. To that end, I am NULLIFYING the results of this year's election, reinstituting myself as your magnificent ruler and declaring martial law.

It is said that a great leader listens to his subjects' every need and desire, and as the greatest leader, and hence the most listenyest, I have determined that the one true desire in each of your hearts. However did he know? some of you may be asking. Well, admittedly, it was a challenge, and it involved a lot of "reading-between-the-lines" and "blind assumptions," but over the year I've learned to interpret every fleeting glance, every stifled cough, every call of "Mark, your fly is down, again" as a cleverly veiled plea from each and every one of you that I stay on. The people's voice has been heard! We live in a democracy, and it is to hold true to that tenet and respect your surely unanimous sentiment that I am invalidating this democratically-held election. I have spoken, it shall be so, until such time that I am dead, most likely fighting bears and/or ninjas and/or ninja-bears.

I will not stand idly by and allow Christine Murray to intimidate you into voting for her with her freshly baked cookies, cute-as-a-button smile and reasonable ideas. Do not let that sweet demeanor fool you, beneath that lulu lemon-clad exterior beats a heart of pure evil. I am not one to spread false rumours, but it is widely rumoured that to celebrate her Presidential win, she ate a puppy...and a baby panda. Her evil and devious ways must stop, and I am here to free you from her days-long oppression. Christine Murray, you and all other political dissidents have been declared enemies of the People, and are henceforth banished to the Siberia of the Law School, the Stairwell of the Library. May its icy, concrete embrace freeze your hearts of malcontent.

For those of you Dean's List keeners, nervously wondering if I have legal authority to do such a thing, allow me to soothe your nerd-xiety. In the LSA Constitution, section 1.2.4.4(a)(i)(☺) clearly states that "The President shall, at any such time he or she (she....ha!) deems necessary, nullify the results of any election that will compromise the security and well-being of the school...and, um...ye shall giveth unto him a back massage if he so demandeth." It's all right there, in black and white. You may have some trouble finding a copy of that document, all remaining copies were mysteriously burned, most likely the result of a terrorist plot hatched by the recently deposed Christine "The Jackal" Murray. Rest assured, my Ministry of Truth Not Propaganda, Renee Hunt, is currently producing more copies, complete with all of the above amendments. I'll take one of those massages now, actually.

I don't see how any of you can be surprised, I'm hardly the first Filipino to go mad with power. Who can forget that warm and cuddly Ferdinand Marcos? The similarities are uncanny. Ol' Freddy was also a law student, and both our lady-friends have purchased a ridiculous amount of shoes. Also, Milena is an anagram of Imelda...I think, I have no idea what an anagram is. What I do know is this, I would make a far more imposing figure than that cartoonish and silly-looking bastard Kim Jong-il. Hey Kimmy, all the tanks in the world and missiles that fly straight into the sea can't make you as sexy as me, little man. Regardless, I can pull off the big sunglasses look way better, (see above picture).

Let's see, I think I covered all my bases (flipping open book, So You Want to be a Dictator)...exile political enemies...did that.... martial law...duh....change the law in your favour...uh huh...ooops...religious support? Damnit, I knew I forgot something.

People of Law School, if any doubts remain with you, remember that my leadership is of divine origin, as it was prophesied in the Bible, in the Gospel according to Mark (Facundo) "And lo! It shall come to pass that the Chosen One will come unto the city of perpetual ice and snow, all must fear him and obey. Ye shall know Him by his Beardless Womanly Face and Head of Disproportionate Size, and his coming will herald the Dawn of the Age of Mark."

F-ing sweet.

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE BIG SEXY

NAVID NIKOU (1L)

People, the end of an era is upon us. The reign of our supposed Supreme Leader is quickly approaching its end. His ubiquitous portraits, statues, and video clips will soon vanish from our building, and subsequently from our lives. We must seize this opportunity to liberate ourselves from our painful history, and begin anew. However, as with any other cataclysmic world event this also demands our attention and reflection. One cannot help but wonder how someone like Mark Facundo became so powerful so quickly. How did a man with no LSA experience eventually become its president?

Myths about the origin of his powers and the birth of his presidency are rampant around the Law Centre. It is rumoured that Mark began his reign of terror as a mere1L. However, he soon managed to overcome those humble beginnings by carefully crafting his image as a ruthless leader. He single handedly masterminded a bloodless coup to overthrow Sajan Alexander, or Alex the Great as he was known. After usurping the throne he graciously spared the life of his predecessor, however he quickly eliminated all those among his peers who might have emerged as possible rivals, just in case anyone mistook him for some soft-hearted law student.

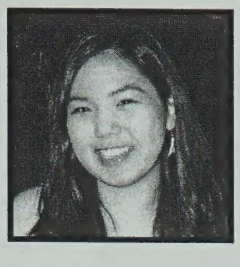
As an astute student of history, Mark quickly realized that he needed the support of the commoners to remain in power. With all the opposition eliminated, he adopted the motto a *Fresh Face with Fresh Ideas*. By assuming the persona of a man of the people, he began to manipulate the masses with ease. He quickly managed to get many of his detractors to side with him by using his good looks and considerable charm. Mark claims to be a firm believer in great women being behind every great man, and as such decided to choose the always enigmatic Milena Jusza as the queen to his king. However, sources close to him indicate that he did so in an attempt to put an end to the widespread speculations about his sexuality.

In no time the law student population

...Continued on page 5...

Quit While You're Behind

Wendy Wang (1L)



After six or so plodding hours of classes, make-up classes, and everything in-between, we students tend to get a tad disgruntled. It doesn't help that everyone we meet takes pleasure in parroting the same question over and over again: "What's law school like?"

Any reasonable person would understand that this type of query is born of a naïve, wholly blameless curiosity. This same person would also realize that it is prudent to smile and nod, and reply that law school is fine and dandy. Usually, for others' sakes, we also deign to throw in some tidbit at the end about this 'hilarious' case we learned in whichever course... Oh golly gee, those harebrained plaintiffs and their crazy antics!

What we choose to remain mum on is that we toiled for hours reading the entire judgment. And briefing it. And CANning it, though we're most likely to forget it right at that crucial moment in the final where a multi-part answer is at stake and suddenly, we're hyperventilating.

Really, what are we suffering for? Most of us won't end up earning the big bucks anyway. Even if we do find some sort of intrinsic value to our work, we'll be too busy upholding The Law to fully enjoy it. Not to mention the fantastically horrible reputation that the legal profession in general has been stuck with. How many lawyers does it take to screw in a light bulb? How many lawyers, indeed...

You might as well quit while you're behind. Just think about how effortless it would be to throw your notes into a blazing fire and never decipher Latin terms again. We're trying to memorize hundreds of years of case law when people in Podunk Town, Alberta, are making in a year what our tuition costs (and more) by drilling for oil – without having to worry about the duty of care or privity issues to boot. We already have an advantage over the Average Joe or Josephine because of the post-secondary education we had to endure before law. Perhaps it is time to retire that OneCard for a punch card and some good, honest blue-collar employment.

Better to take your hard-earned B.Sc. or B.Comm. and actually do something enjoyable with your life, while you still can. It seems like the only reasonable thing to do.

...That is, of course, unless you have a B.A. Then you're screwed either way.

Rise and Fall

...Continued from page 4...

began to praise the very man who terrified them, and has arguably brought them to ruin. In a matter of days portraits of him in many glorious poses adorned the walls of the Law Centre. His next step was to gain control over the only media source available, our very own *Canons of Construction*. Mark soon became famous for his constant attempts at censorship to protect his image.

Mark chose to rule based on an entrenched system of fear throughout the law faculty. Although successful at first, his regime did not go unchallenged. He survived a rash of assassination attempts, and devastating sanctions imposed by Dean Percy. However, rather than shaking his confidence, these events only served to make him bolder and braver than the last pretender to the throne. Eventually, out of the ashes rose the defiant figure whose name will be revered years from now in the halls of the Law Centre.

We will soon be entering the dawn of a new era. Recent political turmoil has culminated in another coup, and a new president. Sources close to the former leader point to his refusal to accept the election results, and his plans to challenge Christine Murray's presidency, whom he has since dubbed *The Jackal*. Soon the only memory of Mark will be his air of gravity, and the lordly way he carried himself as he preened himself on numerous Carbolic and Law Show videos. Farewell fearless leader.....

9 Tips for Getting That Summer Article

Jason Thomas (3L)

9. Be sure to eat before the interview. I suggest beans and dairy products. With heating prices on the rise, nothing says 'employable' like a portable supply of natural gas.

8. Resume. Law firms feel the need to ask questions regarding your resume, so you need a good backstory for all of the lies, oops, I mean 'embellishments', listed under your 'extra-curricular' section. Much like using a fake i.d., MEMORIZE your phony history. You don't want a partner asking you about your charity work in Belize when the first thing that jumps into your head is: "Belize... is that in Africa or S. America??"

7. An important part of any interview is discussion of your grades. If you have good grades, these tips are frivolous and you've wasted your time. If you have some poorer grades to explain however, time to start lying. You're gonna need death certificates, injury reports, and possibly some police records from when all your textbooks/notes managed to get 'stolen' the week before finals. Law firms appreciate ingenuity and creative thinking.

6. Overtly flirt with everyone you encounter from the moment you enter the firm. Office staff, articling students, senior partners, custodians—everyone is fair game. Firms want someone who's personable. Be sure not to exclude people of your own gender. We live in an age of equality and there is no longer a glass ceiling on whoring it up for advancement.

5. Firms want a hard worker. Nothing impresses a firm more than showing how dedicated you are by leaving your cell phone on through the entire interview. Be sure to have several of your friends call.

4. Also, let the firms know that not only are you working, but that you're successful. "Yeah, I can move that much weight. Only $2K?? I bury those cockroaches!!" A nice touch here is to set your cell phone to ring "Cocaine" by Eric Clapton.

3. Let the firm know that you're all about the money. Be sure to not only unrealistically inflate what you expect for salary (use those negotiation skills!), but steal everything in the office that isn't bolted down. Greed earns respect.

2. Attempt to lighten the tension in the room with comedy. Ethnic slurs, bigotry, and anti-Semitism show that you're hip/cool. Be sure to focus your jokes on whatever prejudice the senior partner would be most 'appreciative' of.

1. Law firms love it when you are interested in their practice, and lawyers will adore you if you take a personal fascination with their career. Take this to the next level. Arrive at the interview with maps to all of the partners homes, names of all their kids/spouses/mistresses, and pictures you've taken of each of them engaged in at least one illegal activity. Also, if you really want the job, be sure to rank their children by intelligence, accomplishments, and 'doability'.

Law Women really do get the short end of the stick

Vista Pourbahrami (3L)

Following on a very predictable path, my final Canons article has a distinct feminist flavour. Maybe because I am still feeling the sting of being Klarred, or possibly as a means of offering one last ethical commentary, I have decided that these observations need to be shared.

For three years I have witnessed three male law students take office as LSA president, and three male law students be elected as Valedictorian… coincidence? I think not. I personally think that male law students thrive in the law school environment for several reasons. So I know what you are thinking now: this is the person who says that you should not define what men and women are or do or generalize how they behave, and that is all very true… but so are the following observations:

Female appearance matters

If you take a moment and look around, aside from those who were voted "Section 1 Hottie" and "Deputy Hottie" and select others few and far between, most male law students really do not care what they wear. I do not mean to imply that this is a bad thing. In all honesty I think it is admirable that male law students get the most praise from their male peers when they are sporting "interesting" facial hair or looking particularly shlubby. Believe me it would be nice if the female law students matched the Facebook Facial Hair Growing Competition with something like "Worst Bed Hair possible" or something else that would celebrate spending no time on getting ready during exams. The females instead, subject ourselves to sleeping with rollers in, or waking up extra early to straighten our hair, put on makeup and co-ordinate the outfit. If this extra effort is not put in, you end up sticking out like a sore thumb standing next to these beauties. It is sweet when you are told "you look nice today" specifically on the days that you don't because if it is coming from a fellow female law student you know it means "I can tell you didn't brush your hair today so I am worried there is something going on in your life you are not telling me about so here is my attempt to lift your spirits". If you sat down and added up how many hours are spent on those "extras" I think that there would be a significant chunk of time most female law students could have spent cracking open their casebooks.

The Exams themselves

My other observation is that female law students have it the worst when it comes to exams. How many male law students do you know with low blood sugar or anemia who feel weak after a three hour stretch of not eating? Then of course when you plan for the exam, you become the person everyone hates who has an array of candy in front of her. Add to this the fact that, biologically, we have smaller bladders. I do not mean to be crude here, but this is a valid concern. When you are writing a three hour exam and every minute matters, if you bladder is smaller and you have to go to the washroom that is 3 minutes you wont get back. The alternative, sitting and thinking about how much you want to go to the washroom but really can't afford to lose anytime on this hypothetical, is not very productive either.

Male law students get away with more when it comes to the actual writing of the exams as well. It is an expectation that the female law students have the bubbly, beautiful, perfectly capable to be a computer font writing. Writing like that takes time, and apparently chicken scratch is legible, but if only the doctor-prescription-esque calligraphy was acceptable for the rest of us. For the next generation of law students who will be brave enough to try the new world of "lap-top exam writing" the

...Continued on page 7...

What if God Wrote a Law Exam

Allison Eng (3L)

Imagine God, seated in your lecture hall, writing a final exam with your class. Just think about that for a moment. The Uber-Infinite, Super-Almighty One putting pen to paper in tackling a hypothetical. Just like you. Honestly, I'm not sure that he would do very well.

Some of us have caught on to the notion that there is no 'right' answer to a hypothetical on a law school exam. God would agree. There is no right answer because the hypothetical would never happen in real life. On the exam, God's response would be short and succinct: 'What you just described would never happen. There is no point to pursue further analysis. I know.' On the anonymous grading system, an answer like that would receive a failing grade.

To anyone afraid of appealing their grades, *fear not*, for God would most certainly have appealed his failing grade as well. When asked to name grounds for appeal, he might choose from a variety of responses, such as: a) 'I am right, you are wrong', b) 'How dare you', c) 'Shame on you, Professor ___ for showing such little faith in humanity', or d) 'Depart from the law faculty, Satan!'.

I'll admit it – I'm being facetious.

My point, however, is simply to remind us all (myself included) that *writing law exams is not the end of the world.* May flowers will still follow April showers – or, in the case of Edmonton, snowstorms. 'Stressed' is just 'desserts' spelled backwards, as a sticky-note once taught me. Taking the popular slogan, "Have a break. Have a Kit Kat." in the context of that sticky-note is suddenly incredibly insightful. Even God rested. I'm told that manna, the food of angels, has wafer-like qualities (similar to Kit Kat bars) as well.

In no way am I conspiring to cause in you a craving for Kit Kat bars whenever you get stressed. Be studious. CAN away. Climb the curve. Soar like an eagle on your exams. However, avoid wagering your self-worth on that hokey hypothetical. And though I wouldn't follow God's approach in answer the hypothetical question on an exam to the tee, I'm sure that professors would appreciate our attempts to be succinct.

Fellow law students, take heart in knowing this: *God is on our side.* He would sympathize with your frustrations as you suffer through the fictional fact patterns that professors pull from who knows where. To our professors, take heed: when you craft your hokey hypo, *God is watching you.* Proceed without his approval at your own peril, for without his backing, you risk facing, as a sign that your hypo went too far, a flurry of responses that are incomplete, incoherent, irrelevant, illegible, illogical, unclear, shifty, shady, unprincipled, completely off, dry, irrational, or patently unreasonable. And if God shows up at the exam …

"LAYING REAL" IN REVIEW

RYAN LEE CHEE (3L)

I don't even know where to begin. "Ryan, write a spoof article!" "Ryan do you have something funny for the last issue?"

Why bother?

I have written several articles this year and I see no progress. Lets take a look at the year in review…

Article #1: Getting an article. I don't have much to say here, since September most of you have found that elusive articling job. Congratulations and good luck to the remaining few.

Article #2: Only brother in law school. Everyone thought I was kidding, but like global warming this is no joke. And now look; despite most predictions I will graduate. A school filled with vanilla faces. "Who cares?" You must be thinking. I can see you all geared up for your future law parties that involve bowling and drinking corn juice. I suppose I should integrate myself to find out what vanilla faces do for fun. Until then I appoint the black guy at the reference desk as interim brother effective April 30th.

Article #3: Dirty, dirty bathrooms. A couple weeks ago, I decided to take a hidden camera into the washrooms for an update on cleanliness. Needless to say after a short explanation to campus security, and one docket court hearing I went in without a camera (and this time into the boys bathroom). Instead of risking a rash on my "private areas" I decided simply to soil myself. This led to another call to campus security.

Article #4: Sabotaging your classmates for better grades. While I'm sure this article was put in a scholarly journal at a certain Toronto law school, there wasn't much food poisoning of classmates taking place. Bryan Crozier did attempt to put something "special" in my drink, which was odd as he's a first year, not in my class, and it was a Friday night. I find that off-putting to say the least.

Article #5: No law groupies makes Ryan a dull boy. Well this issue has come and gone. Then I saw the grad photos. I'll summarize what I saw: Women showing up with dates in hand, and the single men showing up with their mom. Upon further review, it may appear some of those mothers were "paid" (Hint: moms don't wear skirts that short).

Article #6: Yes, ok I made a Jesus joke. Yeah, people can slow down on the hateful glares. "Ryan have you even read the Bible?" was a question posed to me. The answer? Yes. The gist of it is as follows: One man entered our world to redeem mankind from the sins of …machines. Ok, I didn't read the entire thing of it but I watched the Matrix like 20 times, its kind've the same thing. Look I met a guy claiming to be Jesus on the sidewalk of Whyte Ave the other day, if he's not offended why should you be? By the way, I gave this man **claiming to be** Jesus some change but I think he lied and spent that money on booze. My advice? Don't give Jesus money; buy him a beer.

PERCEIVED ADVANTAGE?

...Continued from page 6...

bubbly-writing impediment will be a thing in the past --> we are headed in the right direction ladies!

Socializing

I would suggest that when it comes to the levels of socializing, male law students have a lot more leeway than their female peers. The reactions to those who are "uber flirty but in a committed relationship" or "painfully shy and awkward" or "outspoken, loud, obnoxious and brutally honest" vary significantly depending on whether it is Mr. X or Mrs. Y that has the persona. This makes it more difficult for the female law student to thrive in the social contexts and if you don't shmooze you really do lose!

So as you sit there laughing at my proposition that law school is an environment better suited to male law students imagine one of your female friends who could have used an extra 30 minutes in the morning to sleep or who is the second respondent in a moot and is dying to go to the washroom and ask yourself, is it really fair? I would answer that presently it is not, but the estrogen-filled 67% female LSA gives me hope that the trials and tribulations of the female law student will soon disappear.

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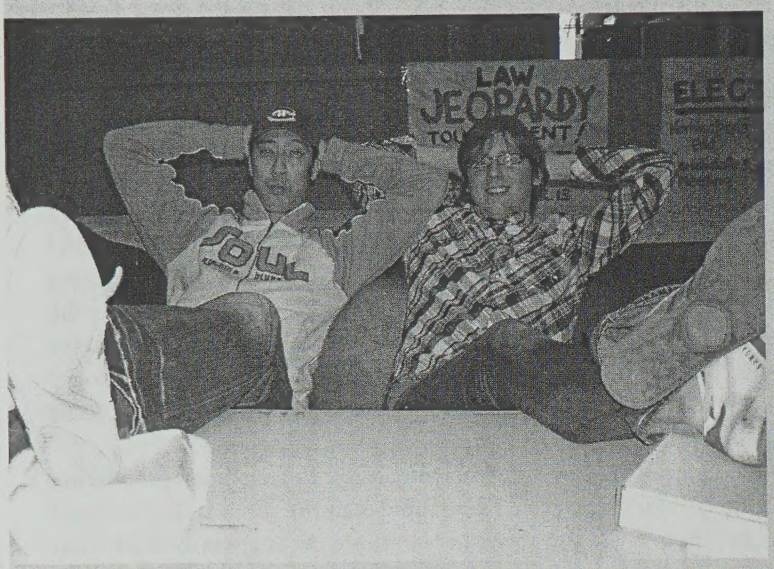
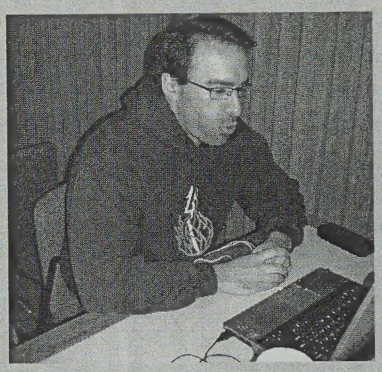
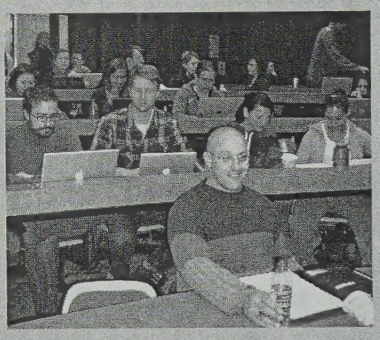
THE SOCIAL EVENT OF

Layout by Mariana Oliveira

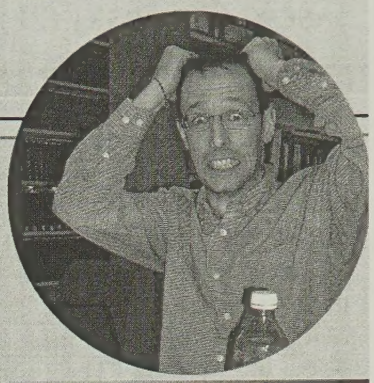


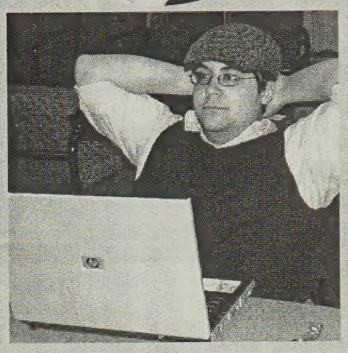


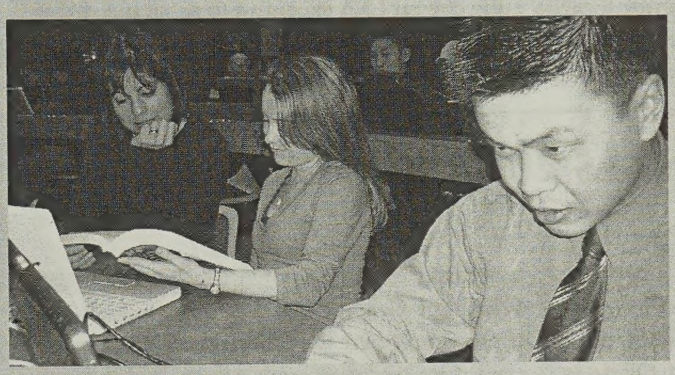


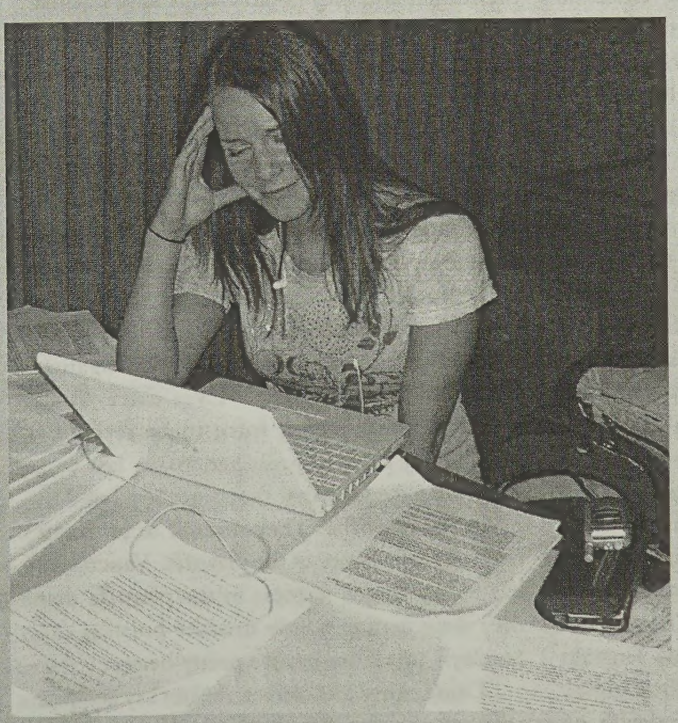
THE SEASON: CRAMMING

JUST BREATHE









You Will Be Accountable

Jason Giborski (2L)

I was supposed to write a sports article since I am in fact the sports editor but it sucked and was about Chris Bruce and figured he's had his ego stroked enough over the last 4 years and people have better things to do.

What is a more pressing issue is the most recent LSA election where professional LSA member Christine Murray defeated Dave "hairy bagel" Both, and Mariana "The so in love Latina" Oliveira.

There had been some minimal controversy over some of the campaign promises made, specifically whether those promises were within the power or the scope of the office of the LSA. Now that Ms. Murray has won office I plan on holding her accountable for her biggest campaign promise….. "best LSA Ever".

I conducted several detailed interviews with LSAs of the 70s, 80s and 90s who all vowed to put "their best" against "our best" any day of the week. After a brief consultation with Chief Justice Bev Mac (or as I call her the "Mac Attack") she agreed that the only way to settle such a debate would be a balloon race around the world or a fight to the death.

So I ask you Ms. Murray are you prepared to subject your LSA executive to an all out reality show extravaganza? I await your response…. you are on notice.

Other Election news:

Did you know Shaun Hohman wasn't even a general? Yes folks that right "the General" who you all voted for is not in fact a General. Rumour has it he's not even in the army. But have no fear, when I talked to Matt Husson he told me that his slogan "he'd vote for you" was bullshit, he'd never vote for you, he thinks you're ugly.

07 Tortfeasor Wrap up:

The Tortfeasors held their annual general election last week and 2L Yukon Robbie came out on top. He dazzled us with his "bullet point" handout like a child with a shiny object, by the time the dust settled he had won the election. His first order of business was to order more nachos, I think he'll be a great President.

...Continued on page 12...

Stanley Cup Finals 2007: Vancouver Canucks vs The Calgary Flames

Bryan Crozier (1L)

The NHL has decided to let the two best teams in the NHL duke it out in the Stanley Cup Finals. The offensive prowess of these two teams make the high scoring Oilers in the glory days look like complete "plugs". Vancouver's captain became such a prolific goal scorer during the year that he went in on a penalty shot, but he tried to score while elevating the puck at centre ice. Once he realized that this was impossible, he went back to pick the puck up and…you guessed it…he DIDN'T score! I personally think it was because he didn't want to make the goalie feel bad. Calgary's captain, also called "Piggy" has been a little bit greedier. He hasn't cared about the goalie's feelings as much, and has done very well this year. He said something about eating babies to get ready for games…or was that Mike Tyson? Same thing, both Piggy and Iron Mike are great hockey players.

As hard as it is to say it, I have to cheer for Calgary in this one. Although the "Battle of Alberta" should make me hate Calgary and its fans, I tip my hat to them. Any fan that sticks around through the drought Calgary went through in the 90's gets a little bit of respect. They should be rewarded. I secretly say this simply because I feel that Edmonton is potentially entering a potentially large drought. What got Calgary Flames fans through the tough times, were the promises of building for the future, and they could always look back at the Stanley Cup banners to remember the good times. This is what Edmonton is going to be doing, hopefully for not very long.

Vancouver on the other hand will lose! I don't even know how to comprehend how you can cheer for that team. I think the bandwagon got a little crowded by people not quite sure what they were cheering for. AHEM! Ms. Swashbuckle, that means you! I think they must have gotten on, and stayed there since Vancouver's thrilling victory in '94 against the New York Rangers. Ever since then, Vancouver has been a force to be reckoned with. They showed great generosity last year when they decided that they were too good to make the playoffs. They wanted to let other teams have a chance in the playoffs. Vancouver has had so much success in the playoffs that they were getting a little tired of hoisting the Stanley Cup. They say it's pretty heavy…

Don't worry Vancouver, the hockey analysts are on your side to win the cup in this match-up, so my opinion doesn't matter.

OK, this is the end of the article for you Canucks fans, so stop reading…..NOW! However, if you aren't a Canucks fan, and obviously have an IQ above 15, keep reading.

Calgary fans would know right away that this final match-up is not possible. They know both teams are in the Western Conference and can't play in the Stanley Cup Finals against each other. Canucks fans probably have no idea what just happened… Most of them cheer blindly not knowing anything about any other hockey team in the NHL, or anything about hockey. They probably don't even remember that they didn't win the Cup in '94. I feel bad for them, kind of like how bad I feel for the little kid in the corner when Ryan Lee Chee steals his ice cream and runs away laughing. I officially put a hex on the Canucks team, and they will not do well in the playoffs. This probably has something to do with me losing a bet earlier in the year and having to wear a small girls Canucks Jersey for the day. My pride is still broken.

By the way, if I get any complaints about making fun of you Canucks fans, I'll just know you can't read properly. I told you to stop reading!! How do you expect to be a lawyer if you can't follow simple directions?

2007 GRAD AWARDS

Spirit Awards

Best LSA President: not awarded this year
Busiest Beaver:
Kari Sejr
Miss Congeniality:
Tie: Chrissy Cundict & Kanchana Fernando
(Runner-Up: Mark Facundo)
Most Popular (according to Facebook):
Mike Sharp
Best Moves:
Rob De Guzman
(Runner-Up: Jeneva Dalgarno)
Happiest Camper:
Tie: Dale Weston & Sandra Malcolm
Hostess with the Mostess:
Stephanie Oleksyn
Host with the Most:
Jonathon Wescott
Cutest Law Couple:
Tie: Kristin Engbloom & Kevin Long; Mark Facundo & Warren Woo
(Runners-Up: Mark Facundo & Milena Jusza)
Most Patient Girlfriend:
Milena Jusza
Best Who's Who Picture:
Dave Jarrett (2L)
Most Jovial Drunk:
Tie: Mike Lazaruk & John Rauser
Black Star All-Stars (for most classes missed):
Novy Cheema
Matthew Ferg

Grooming & Appearance Awards

Best Dressed (Female):
Nicole Schultz
Best Dressed (Male):
Tie: Kris Nielsen & Ryan Lee Chee
Best Hair (Female):
Tie: Shalee Gartner & Jenn Young
(Runners-Up: Nicole Bacsalmasi & Joanna Cox)
Best Hair (Male):
Jeff Coles
(Runner-Up): Frank Caruso
Sassiest 'Do:
Lauren Barr
(Runner-Up: Jason Thomas)
Best Beard:
Graham Darling
Best Moustache (Overall):
Travis Anderson
Best Moustache (Porn):
Tie: Vinnie Kurata
Best Moustache (Handlebar):
Rob Connolly
Smoothest Chest:
Ryan Franzen
Best Legs:
Tie: Jonathan Tieman & Nitin Bhatia
Whitest Teeth:
Kajal Patel

Most Likely To…

Be outed for having a fake accent:
Olga Kyselyova
(Runner-Up: Ameen Tejani)
Become Prime Minister:
Laura Gill
(Runner-Up: Matt Mitschke)
Become the shortest Prime Minister in Canadian history:
Matt Mitschke
Wear nipple pasties in court:
Peter Krysiak
Have his arms explode from overzealousness at the gym:
Rey Lum
(Runner-Up: Mike Saliken…oh wait…)
Own a significant portion of the NBA:
Michael Lipton
Get distracted while addressing the court:
Elizabeth Liu
(Runner-Up: Chris Bruce)

Best Celebrity Look-Alikes

Dave Jarrett
Philip Seymour Hoffman
The Swedish Chef
Matt Sheridan
Jason Lee
Fred Wynne
Dog The Bounty Hunter
Jennifer Sykes
Molly Ringwald
Henry Campbell
Frodo Baggins
Kieran Ryan
Donald Trump
Caylee Rieger
Jessica Simpson
Mark Facundo
Maddox Jolie-Pitt

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The Law Hockey Pool returns for the 2006-2007 school year!

Congratulations to Hugh Hammond7 and Katy Holland, winners of this year's hockey pool!

1. Hugh Hammond7	1000	6. Stefanie Quelch	980	11. Mel Garbe	968
1. Katy Holland	1000	7. Ian Klaiman	979	12. Hugh Hammond5	966
3. Jonathan Cummin	996	8. Bryan Crozier 2	976	13. Jesse Flookes1	964
3. Michael Klaray5	996	9. Chris Boyle	974	14. Vernon Eichorn2	963
5. Antoine Gariepy	990	10. Adam Lindsay	972	173. Borky2000	532

BENNETT JONES CONTEST RESULTS

WINNER: ALEX MILLMAN (2L)

Ian was a first year law student at the University of Alberta. While walking to class, he was lost in his own dreams of becoming a window-washer after reading page 477 of Magnet (Vol 2), assigned to him by a professor who did not imagine any consequences of such action. Distracted, Ian failed to notice a mop bucket left at the top of the stairs by Dean Percy, and accidentally got his foot caught inside of it.

It began to roll down the stairs dragging Ian with it. Unfortunately, this was right in between a class change, and the mop bucket rolled right into the middle of a small altercation near the couches. Sharon, thinking that Alex was the idiot who designed Beartracks attempted to smack him up upside the head with a hockey stick (Note: We take judicial notice that whoever did design Beartracks deserves to be hit upside the head wit ha hockey stick, and no liability may follow). However, Sharon missed Alex as she:

1) Was suffering from Jet Lag and

2) was intoxicated from a bad batch of mushrooms on a pizza provided by the Law Society of Alberta during a student lunch.

Instead of hitting Alex, she ended up hitting Ian with a hockey stick, and he continued to tumble down the next set of stairs. After hitting his head one last time, Ian miraculously survived. He stood up and all of a sudden realized that Norberg v. Wynrib made perfect sense. Unfortunately, that was not due to a sudden realization, but instead due to massive brain damage which was soon to be the result of his untimely death. As Ian began to curse his fellow classmates, he fell into a coma and did not wake.

Ignoring all tort issues, discuss all legal liabilities that arise.

RUNNER UP: WENDY WANG (1L)

A priest, a rabbi, and a duck walk into a bar…

Just Duck waddles in, completely distraught. He had been crossing the road with his friend, Robot Chicken, when Errant Ewanchuk ignored the red light and sped forward, just grazing Chick's chest. Duck witnessed this and suffered severe mental distress. He is overcome by an undeniable craving for Jager Bombs. Father Alfred and Rabbi Bevan comfort Duck, who now fears what will happen to him after he shuffles off his mortal coil. Alfred opines, "In the afterlife a view without animals is the delight of everyone. You're not going anywhere." Bev, under the mistaken impression that she has much sway over the matter, advises Duck that he will indeed go to heaven. She hands him a peppercorn to demonstrate her sincerity. Duck is immediately cheered. In gratitude, he leaves in his will, "To Bev's oldest son, my entire inheritance from my distant uncle, Scrooge McDuck, and my two volumes of Magnet for life." Following his death, Duck is rejected at the pearly gates.

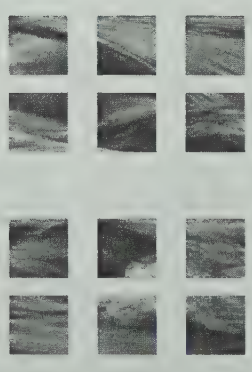
Assuming that dead barnyard animals are afforded the same rights as live homo sapien ones, identify and analyze the potential legal actions that arise under this scenario.

The Bennett Jones Creativity Contest

Write your own hypo

Congratulations to Alex Millman, winner of the Bennett Jones "Write your own hypo" contest.

Thank you to everyone who submitted an entry, best of luck next time!



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YOU WILL BE ACCOUNTABLE

...Continued from page 10...

Well I lied, I couldn't get through an entire article without mentioning Chris Bruce, as outgoing President of the Law Hockey Club he leaves behind a legacy of corruption and sex scandals (I'll never look at a hockey stick or jock strap the same way again). But in all seriousness, in the two years that I've been apart of the team we've been treated like pros, he put together two fantastic winter tournaments which will hopefully continue on for years to come.

To all the Tortfeasors who played your final game last week, Old Man Thomlinson, Fergalicious, Kevin (who I tried to dub "Klo" but that name never took on), Lynass (who thinks being a cop is more important that playing for the 'feasors), and of course Bruce, I'm glad you'll be on the alumni team next year so hopefully we can win.

For 2007, I'm out.

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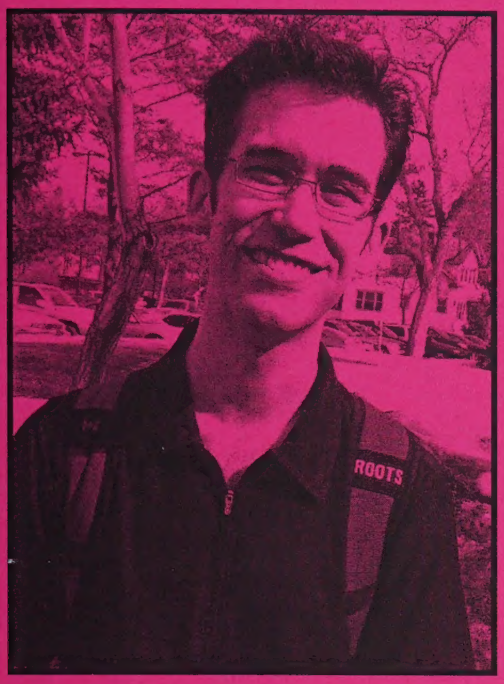
Ruled by Law

Ryan McFarlane (2L)

Law Guy: Ryan

Interviews By: Kate Snowsell (1L) & Jessie Bachinsky (1L)



Ryan McFarlane
2L
Undergrad: Anthro/Psych
Hometown: Winfield, BC

If Hollywood made a movie about your life whom would play the lead role and why?
John Cusack, as he was in Better off Dead, because he would have portrayed my sense of humour very well (and his drawings that came alive were cool).

What is your funniest/worst dating story?
Wow, too personal! Moving on…

What song best describes this stage in your life and why?
The Ramones "I wanna be sedated" because I'm going more crazy by the second.

What is your typical exam ritual?
Stressing out to the point of my vision clouding over. Seriously.

So far, what has been your best moment in law school?
Just in general having a creative outlet by drawing comics for CANONS. Even though it takes a decent amount of time, I still enjoy it.

If you could be a superhero who would it be and why?
The Tick because I wouldn't have to think very much and my villains would be entertaining and twisted.

If you were given another 400 dollar cheque from the government what would you do with it?
Most likely something boring, mundane and practical.

If you were able to wear whatever you wanted under your robe, what would it be?
Why would I wear something under it in the first place?

If you could spend an afternoon with one person, dead or alive, who would it be?
I've had so many people (friends and family) die this last year that spending an afternoon with any one of them would be a treat.

Name a fashion faux pas that drives you crazy.
Sandals with socks always drive me nuts.

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be?
Just about anywhere warm, sunny and tropical.

What is the best gift you ever received?
Help Moving

Law Girl: Kerry

If Hollywood made a movie about your life whom would play the lead role and why?
Jack Black! Just looking at him makes me laugh. Seeing him in drag would be awesome! But if Jack Black were unavailable, I'd have to go with Cindi Lauper.

What is your funniest/worst dating story?
My first boyfriend only dated me out of guilt, and dumped me less than 24 hours later. We were at the grade 7 dance, and he was moshing around with another guy. They fell on top of me and broke my nose. Blood gushed everywhere and ruined my dress! While I was at the hospital, my best friend told this guy that I had a crush on him. He called and asked me to be his girlfriend at about 10pm that night, and then dumped me the next day. He told me that his 'feelings for me had changed'. Ahh, teenage angst!

What song best describes this stage in your life and why?
'Bringing Sexy Back'…just kidding!

What is your typical exam ritual?
Freak out, eat a lot of candy, freak out, eat a lot of junior bacon cheeseburgers from Wendy's, call friends to freak out, announce on Facebook how freaked out I am, call my mom to freak out….

So far, what has been your best moment in law school?
Having my tender young heart ripped out and handed to me on a shining judicial platter by 3 bloodthirsty judges during my moot. Why do they even call it a 'moot'? That sounds way too benign! They should call it '1st year Ceremony of Supreme Savageness'.

If you could be a superhero who would it be and why?
I'd be Beast from X-Men. Not only is he huge and hairy, but he's super smart too!

If you were given another 400 dollar cheque from the government what would you do with it?
A full body wax! Including my head! Then I'd get some industrial butter and rub it everywhere! Can you imagine how slick I would be!?!

If you were able to wear whatever you wanted under your robe, what would it be?
A star trek uniform, with one of those little doohickies that I can press in emergencies, so that Scotty could beam up. A utility belt with a phaser on it would be pretty cool too. It would be nice to see what 'my friends' would think of that!

If you could spend an afternoon with one person, dead or alive, who would it be?
Mr. Rogers. The 'hood just hasn't been the same since he passed on. He didn't leave a will, and there was a big fight over who got his cardigans…it would just be nice if he could sort this out for us. The red one is mine, right?

Name a fashion faux pas that drives you crazy.
Pants. They're just so uncomfortable. Life would be so much better if everyone just rocked out a nice, colourful, Muumuu.

Kerry Greer
1L
Undergrad: Political Science
Hometown: Lethbridge, AB

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be?
The 3rd floor of the law building! I have no idea what's there, but I'm betting its crazy exotic! With elephants, dancing boys, chanting monks, and wookies! Maybe its even got a trampoline!

What is the best gift you ever received?
My dad's advice, on my first day of law school..... "Aim for the gutter girl, that way you can't miss".

CANONS 2006-2007/2007-2008

THANK YOU FOR A GREAT YEAR AND GOOD LUCK ON FINALS!

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

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